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SEP 05 2007

REMARKS

The present Amendment cancels claims 2, 8 and 15-19 and adds new claims 20-23. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 20-23.

Claims 2, 8 and 15-19 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as their invention, and claims 2, 8 and 15-19 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker (U.S. Patent No. 6,107,932) in view of an alleged Official Notice. As indicated above, claims 2, 8 and 15-19 were canceled. Therefore, the above noted 35 USC §112, second paragraph and 35 USC §103(a) rejections of claims 2, 8 and 15-19 are rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the cancellation of claims 2, 8 and 15-19 was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features recited in claims 2, 8 and 15-19 are taught or suggested by Walker or the alleged Official Notice. The cancellation of claims 2, 8 and 15-19 was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicants hereby reserve their right to pursue the invention as set forth in claims 2, 8 and 15-19 in a continuing application.

As indicated above, the present Amendment adds new claims 20-23. New claims 20-23 are directed to a document transmit system and a document transmit method implemented by a document transmit system.

The document transmit system as illustrated, for example, in Fig. 1 of the present application includes an applicant apparatus which permits an

applicant to submit a document with payment of a fee, a fee payment acceptance server which accepts payment of the fee with submission of the document from the applicant apparatus, a document acceptance server which accepts the document submitted by the applicant apparatus and a network which interconnects the applicant apparatus, the payment acceptance server and the document acceptance server to each other.

Unique according to the present invention is that the payment acceptance server includes a payment certificate management database for storing for each applicant a management number, a payment amount, applicant information and a use state of the management number. Thus, according to the present invention by providing the payment acceptance server with the payment certificate management database, certificate information contained within the payment acceptance server is accessible by all other servers and apparatuses connected to the network, thereby permitting centralized management of the certificate information.

Further, according to the present invention the payment certificate management database includes a field 706 as illustrated, for example, in Fig. 7 of the present application that provides information regarding whether the management number has used or not. According to the present invention by using such information various processes can be triggered based on whether the management number has been used or not.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other. Particularly, the above described features of the present invention are

not taught or suggested by Walker or any of the other references of record whether said references are taken individually or in combination with each other.

Walker teaches a system and method for controlling access to a venue using alterable tickets. As per Walker, the alterable ticket and system taught therein controls access to a venue. The system as taught by Walker is illustrated, for example, in Figs. 1 and 2 thereof, wherein a ticket holder purchases an alterable ticket that conveys a write to access the venue and if the ticket is altered in order to modify that right, the ticket cannot be used to gain access to the venue. Walker teaches that a computer tracks that a ticket has been altered and enables a refund to be provided to the ticket holder.

The above described teachings of Walker are entirely different from that of the present invention. Particularly, as noted above, the present invention provides a payment acceptance server which stores therein a payment certificate management database in a centralized location so as to be accessible by each of the other servers or apparatuses on the network.

Further, according to the present invention the payment certificate management database stores for each applicant a management number, a payment amount, applicant information and a use state of the management number. The use state of the management number is used according to the features of the present invention so as cause various processings to be performed depending on whether the management number has been used or not. Such features are clearly not taught or suggested by Walker.

Thus, Walker fails to teach or suggest a payment acceptance server which includes a payment certificate management database for storing for

each applicant a management number, a payment amount, applicant information and a use state of the management number as recited in the claims.

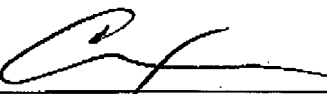
Therefore, since Walker, and each of the other references of record, fails to teach or suggest the above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims, Walker and each of the other references of record do not anticipate nor render obvious the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 20-23 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of the present application based on claims 20-23 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.36774VX1).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



Carl I. Brundidge  
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc  
(703) 684-1120